



Economic and Social Council

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New York, 30 June-25 July 2008

Agenda item 9

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

Algeria, Bolivia, Burundi,* Chile,* Congo, Cuba, Namibia,* Nigeria,* Saint Kitts and Nevis,* Saint Lucia, Solomon Islands,* South Africa,* Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic* and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)*: draft resolution

Support to Non-Self-Governing Territories by the specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations

The Economic and Social Council,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General¹ and the report of the President of the Economic and Social Council containing the information submitted by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system on their activities with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,²

Having heard the statement by the representative of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, the resolutions of the Special Committee and other relevant resolutions and decisions, including, in particular, Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/25 of 26 July 2007,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries

* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

¹ A/63/61.

² E/2008/47.



and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

Conscious of the need to facilitate the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,³

Welcoming the current participation, in their capacity as observers, of those Non-Self-Governing Territories that are associate members of the regional commissions in the world conferences in the economic and social sphere, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, including resolutions and decisions of the Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Noting that only some specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system have been involved in providing assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Welcoming the assistance extended to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

Stressing that, because the development options of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, they face special challenges in planning for and implementing sustainable development, and that they will be constrained in meeting those challenges without the continuing cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Stressing also the importance of securing the necessary resources for funding expanded programmes of assistance for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all the major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

Reaffirming the mandates of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all appropriate measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to ensure the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum, the Caribbean Community and other regional organizations for the continued cooperation and assistance they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in that regard,

Expressing its conviction that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of programmes of assistance for the peoples concerned,

Mindful of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various United Nations decisions relating to decolonization,

Bearing in mind the extremely fragile economies of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes,

³ General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV).

cyclones and sea-level rise, and recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 62/114 of 17 December 2007, entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",

1. *Takes note* of the report of the President of the Economic and Social Council,² and endorses the observations and suggestions arising therefrom;
2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;¹
3. *Recommends* that all States intensify their efforts within the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;
4. *Reaffirms* that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions;
5. *Also reaffirms* that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspirations of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;
6. *Expresses its appreciation* to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and requests all of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to implement the relevant provisions of those resolutions;
7. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Non-Self-Governing Territory so that they may take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;
8. *Urges* those specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system that have not yet provided assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories to do so as soon as possible;
9. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and regional organizations to strengthen existing measures of support and to formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the framework of their respective

mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;

10. *Recommends* that the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and submit those proposals to their governing and legislative organs;

11. *Also recommends* that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review, at the regular meetings of their governing bodies, the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

12. *Welcomes* the preparation by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, of an informational leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and requests that it be disseminated as widely as possible;

13. *Also welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining a close liaison between the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and in providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

14. *Encourages* the Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies;

15. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to facilitate, when appropriate, the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, including the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee, on specific Territories, so that they may benefit from the related activities of those agencies and organizations;

16. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts within the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

17. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee to the present resolution and to the discussion held on the subject at the substantive session of 2008 of the Economic and Social Council;

18. *Recalls* the adoption by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of its resolution 574 (XXVII) of 16 May 1998,⁴ in which the

⁴ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 21 (E/1998/41)*, chap. III, sect. G.

Commission called for the necessary mechanisms for its associate members, including the Non-Self-Governing Territories, to participate, subject to the rules of procedure of the Assembly, in the special sessions of the General Assembly convened to review and assess the implementation of the plans of action of those United Nations world conferences in which the Territories had originally participated in their capacity as observers, and in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies;

19. *Requests* the President of the Economic and Social Council to continue to maintain close contact on these matters with the Chairman of the Special Committee and to report thereon to the Council;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to follow up on the implementation of the present resolution, paying particular attention to cooperation and integration arrangements for maximizing the efficiency of the assistance activities undertaken by various organizations of the United Nations system, and to report thereon to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2009;

21. *Decides* to keep the above questions under continuous review.



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Agenda item 7 (c)

**Coordination, programme and other questions:
international cooperation in the field of informatics**

**Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council,
Jean-Marc Hoscheit (Luxembourg), on the basis of
informal consultations**

The need to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States

The Economic and Social Council,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation in the field of informatics¹ and the initiatives of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics,

Recognizing the interest of Member States in taking full advantage of information and communications technologies for the acceleration of economic and social development,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the need to harmonize and improve United Nations information systems for optimal utilization and access by all States, with due regard to all the official languages,²

Welcoming the intensification of efforts by the Information Technology Services Division of the Department of Management of the Secretariat to provide interconnectivity and unhindered Internet access to all Permanent and Observer Missions at the United Nations,

1. *Reiterates* once again the high priority that it attaches to easy, economical, uncomplicated and unhindered access for Member States of the United

¹ E/2008/65.

² Resolutions 1991/70 of 26 July 1991, 1992/60 of 31 July 1992, 1993/56 of 29 July 1993, 1994/46 of 29 July 1994, 1995/61 of 28 July 1995, 1996/35 of 25 July 1996, 1997/1 of 18 July 1997, 1998/29 of 29 July 1998, 1999/58 of 30 July 1999, 2000/28 of 28 July 2000, 2001/24 of 26 July 2001, 2002/35 of 26 July 2002, 2003/48 of 24 July 2003, 2004/51 of 23 July 2004, 2005/12 of 22 July 2005, 2006/35 of 27 July 2006 and 2007/14 of 26 July 2007.



Nations and Observers, as well as non-governmental organizations accredited to the United Nations, to the computerized databases and information systems and services of the United Nations, provided that the unhindered access of non-governmental organizations to such databases, systems and services will not prejudice the access of Member States nor impose an additional financial burden for their use;

2. *Requests* the President of the Economic and Social Council to convene the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics for one more year to enable it to carry out, from within existing resources, the due fulfilment of the provisions of the Council resolutions on this item, to facilitate the successful implementation of the initiatives being taken by the Secretary-General with regard to the use of information technology and to continue the implementation of measures required to achieve its objectives and, in that regard, requests the Working Group to continue its efforts to act as a bridge between the evolving needs of Member States and the actions of the Secretariat, and also requests the Working Group to consider its future role, status and mandate and develop findings in that regard;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretariat for the continuing cooperation it is extending to the Working Group in the endeavour to further improve the information technology services available to all Permanent and Observer Missions at the United Nations and, in particular, for upgrading and stabilizing the e-mail services for delegates and for upgrading web-based services, such as the CandiWeb elections and candidatures site, as well as many Mission websites implementing the CandiWeb elections and candidatures website, a cooperative effort of the Secretariat and the diplomatic community coordinated by the Working Group;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to extend full cooperation to the Working Group and to give priority to implementing its recommendations and guidance, particularly with regard to the establishment of a Member State web portal to consolidate and simplify the secure access by authorized representatives of Member States to relevant information;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2009 on action taken in follow-up to the present resolution, including the findings of the Working Group and an assessment of its work and mandate.



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Agenda item 7 (g)

**Coordination, programme and other questions:
tobacco or health**

**Draft decision submitted by the Vice-President of the Council
Jean-Marc Hoscheit (Luxembourg), on the basis of
informal consultations**

Smoke-free United Nations premises

The Economic and Social Council, recalling its resolution 2006/42 of 27 July 2006 on smoke-free United Nations premises, recommends that the General Assembly, at its sixty-third session, consider the recommendations set out in that resolution.





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Agenda item 14 (i)

Non-governmental organizations

Draft decision submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Jean-Marc Hoscheit (Luxembourg), on the basis of informal consultations

Genetic privacy and non-discrimination

The Economic and Social Council, recalling its decision 2007/269 of 27 July 2007 and taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General,¹

(a) Decides to invite the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to consult with relevant United Nations entities on the implementation of and follow-up to Council resolutions 2001/39 of 26 July 2007 and 2004/9 of 21 July 2004, the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights,² the International Declaration on Human Genetic Data, the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights and other norms and instruments adopted within the United Nations system that are relevant to genetic privacy and non-discrimination, and on a possible inter-agency coordination mechanism;

(b) Also decides to invite the Director-General to report to the Council on relevant developments in the field of genetic privacy and non-discrimination at its substantive session of 2010 and on a possible inter-agency coordination mechanism, in consultation with and taking into account the views of Member States.

¹ E/2008/51.

² United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-ninth Session, Paris, 21 October-12 November*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*, resolution 16.





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Agenda item 13 (e)

Economic and environmental questions: environment

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Jean-Marc Hoscheit (Luxembourg), on the basis of informal consultations

Protection against products harmful to health and the environment

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its decision 2007/264 of 27 July 2007, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States and relevant intergovernmental entities, to evaluate the continued usefulness for the Member States of the Consolidated List of Products Whose Consumption and/or Sale have been Banned, Withdrawn, Severely Restricted or Not Approved by Governments and to report to the Council at its substantive session of 2008, and taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment,¹

1. *Invites* the United Nations Environmental Programme to continue updating the chemicals volume of the Consolidated List of Products Whose Consumption and/or Sale have been Banned, Withdrawn, Severely Restricted or Not Approved by Governments and to report to the Council at its substantive session in 2010;

2. *Invites* the World Health Organization to continue updating the pharmaceuticals volume of the Consolidated List and to report to the Council at its substantive session in 2010.

¹ A/63/76-E/2008/54.





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Agenda item 4

**The role of the United Nations system in implementing
the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of
the substantive session of 2007 of the Council**

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Antonio Pedro Monteiro Lima (Cape Verde), on the basis of informal consultations

**The role of the United Nations system in implementing the
ministerial declaration on strengthening efforts to eradicate
poverty and hunger, including through the global partnership for
development, adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive
session of 2007 of the Economic and Social Council**

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration¹ and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,²

Recalling the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2007,

Recalling also its decision 2007/261 of 27 July 2007 on the theme of the 2008 coordination segment,

Recognizing that the challenge of eradicating poverty and hunger requires a comprehensive and multidimensional response by the United Nations system, including the funds, programmes and agencies, as appropriate within their respective mandates,

Reaffirming the commitments to the global partnership for development set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,¹ the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development³ and the Plan of

¹ See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

² See General Assembly resolution 60/1.

³ *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution I, annex.



Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),⁴

1. *Requests* the funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations, as appropriate within their mandates, to make further progress towards more comprehensive, coherent and multidimensional approaches in the formulation of their policies, programmes and operations supporting the eradication of poverty and hunger;
2. *Also requests* the funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations, as appropriate within their mandates, to strengthen their efforts to provide policy support to developing countries and assist them upon request to build their capacity to analyse the impact of a broad range of policy areas on the eradication of poverty and hunger, including through the promotion of interdisciplinary research and studies;
3. *Invites* all member organizations of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination to enhance policy coherence and cooperation in areas vital to achieving the eradication of poverty and hunger;
4. *Requests* all member organizations of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination to approach rural and urban development in an integrated manner and to consider ways to support countries' strategies for reducing urban poverty, as appropriate;
5. *Encourages* the funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations to promote policy coherence and cooperation on science and technology, where relevant, including information and communications technology where appropriate, for poverty reduction that should promote both the formulation of science and technology programmes and the development of national institutional capacities in science and technology in support of the eradication of poverty and hunger;
6. *Also encourages* the funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations, as appropriate within their mandates, to coordinate their assessments of the impact of development cooperation on the eradication of poverty and hunger;
7. *Requests* the funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations, as appropriate within their mandates and in consultation with Member States, to continue to promote multi-stakeholder approaches involving local authorities, civil society and the private sector, inter alia, through its system-wide coordination mechanisms for the eradication of poverty and hunger, as appropriate;
8. *Encourages* the United Nations system, especially its funds, programmes and agencies, to continue to accord the highest priority to the eradication of poverty and hunger, as appropriate, in developing the common country assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, or other frameworks and instruments guiding country-level operational activities, in consultation with Governments;
9. *Encourages* the funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations, as appropriate within their mandates, to continue to strengthen efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger, including through the promotion of the global partnership for development and supporting countries in that regard.

⁴ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.



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Agenda item 13 (a)

**Economic and environmental questions:
sustainable development**

**Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council,
Mr. Jean-Marc Hoscheit (Luxembourg), on the basis of
informal consultations**

Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its tenth session

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 59/209 of 20 December 2004 on a smooth transition strategy for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries,

Recalling also its resolutions 2007/34 and 2007/35 of 27 July 2007,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its tenth session;¹
2. *Requests* the Committee, at its eleventh session, to examine and make recommendations on the themes chosen by the Economic and Social Council for the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2009;
3. *Takes note* of the proposals made by the Committee regarding its future work programme, in particular regarding the monitoring of the development progress of Cape Verde;²
4. *Requests* the Committee to monitor the development progress of countries graduating from the list of least developed countries and to include its findings in its annual report to the Council;
5. *Invites* the Chairperson and, as necessary, other members of the Committee to continue the practice of reporting orally on the work of the Committee.

¹ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2008, Supplement No. 13 (E/2008/33).

² Ibid., chap. I, para. 9.





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Agenda item 13 (d)

**Economic and environmental questions:
human settlements**

**Draft decision submitted by the Vice-President of the Council,
Mr. Jean-Marc Hoscheit (Luxembourg), on the basis of
informal consultations**

Human settlements

The Economic and Social Council, recalling its relevant resolutions on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda,¹

(a) Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda;²

(b) Decides to transmit the report to the General Assembly for consideration at its sixty-third session;

(c) Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda for consideration by the Council at its substantive session of 2009.

¹ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

² E/2008/64.





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Agenda item 13 (j)

Economic and environmental questions: cartography

Draft decision submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Jean-Marc Hoscheit (Luxembourg), on the basis of informal consultations

Tenth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names and twenty-fifth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

The Economic and Social Council decides:

(a) To take note of the report of the Ninth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, held in New York from 21 to 30 August 2007;¹

(b) To endorse the recommendation that the Tenth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names be convened in 2012;²

(c) To endorse the recommendation that the twenty-fifth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names be convened in the first half of 2009.

¹ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.08.1.4.

² Ibid., chap. III, resolution IX/1, para. 1.





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Agenda item 11

Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan

Algeria, Bahrain,* Cuba, Djibouti,* Egypt,* Iraq, Jordan,* Kiribati,* Lebanon,* Mauritania, Morocco,* Qatar,* Saudi Arabia, Sudan, United Arab Emirates,* Yemen* and Palestine:** draft resolution

Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 62/181 of 19 December 2007,

Recalling also its resolution 2007/26 of 26 July 2007,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force and recalling relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 252 (1968) of 21 May 1968, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Recalling the resolutions of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, including ES-10/13 of 21 October 2003, ES-10/14 of 8 December 2003, ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,¹ to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

** In accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/250.

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.



Recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,² the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights² and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,³ and affirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as in the occupied Syrian Golan,

Stressing the importance of the revival of the Middle East peace process on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978, 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003 and 1544 (2004) of 19 May 2004 and the principle of land for peace as well as compliance with the agreements reached between the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,

Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of peoples under foreign occupation over their natural resources, and expressing concern in this regard about the exploitation of natural resources by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan,

Convinced that the Israeli occupation has gravely impeded the efforts to achieve sustainable development and a sound economic environment in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and expressing grave concern about the consequent deterioration of economic and living conditions,

Gravely concerned in this regard about the continuation of settlement activities by Israel and other related measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, particularly in and around occupied East Jerusalem, as well as in the occupied Syrian Golan in violation of international humanitarian law and relevant United Nations resolutions,

Gravely concerned also by the serious repercussions on the economic and social conditions of the Palestinian people caused by Israel's construction of the wall and its associated regime inside the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and the resulting violation of their economic and social rights, including the right to work, to health, to education and to an adequate standard of living,

Recalling in this regard the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,⁴ recalling also General Assembly resolution ES-10/15, and stressing the need to comply with the obligations mentioned therein,

Expressing grave concern at the extensive destruction by Israel, the occupying Power, of properties, agricultural land and orchards in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, including in particular in connection with its construction of the wall, contrary to international law, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem,

² See General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

⁴ See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

Expressing deep concern about continuing Israeli military operations and the continuing Israeli policy of closures and severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, including humanitarian personnel and food, medical, fuel and other essential supplies, via the imposition of crossing closures, checkpoints and a permit regime throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the consequent negative impact on the socio-economic situation of the Palestinian people, which remains that of dire humanitarian crisis, in particular in the Gaza Strip,

Gravely concerned by various reports of the United Nations and the specialized agencies regarding the inordinate rates of unemployment, widespread poverty and severe humanitarian hardships, including food insecurity and rising health-related problems, including high levels of malnutrition among the Palestinian people, especially children, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Expressing grave concern at the increasing number of deaths and injuries of civilians, including children and women,

Conscious of the urgent need for the reconstruction and development of the economic and social infrastructure of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as the urgent need to address the dire humanitarian crisis facing the Palestinian people,

Commending the important work being done by the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the donor community in support of the economic and social development of the Palestinian people, as well as the assistance being provided in the humanitarian field,

Recognizing the efforts being undertaken by the Palestinian Authority, with international support, to rebuild, reform and strengthen its damaged institutions, and emphasizing the need to preserve the Palestinian institutions and infrastructure,

Stressing the importance of national unity among the Palestinian people, and emphasizing the need for the respect and preservation of the territorial integrity and unity of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Calling on both parties to fulfil their obligations under the road map⁵ in cooperation with the Quartet,

1. *Calls for* the lifting of the severe restrictions imposed on the Palestinian people, including those arising from ongoing Israeli military operations, and for other urgent measures to be taken to alleviate the desperate humanitarian situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, especially in the Gaza Strip;

2. *Stresses* the need to preserve the national unity and the territorial integrity of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to guarantee the freedom of movement of persons and goods throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as to and from the outside world;

⁵ S/2003/529, annex.

3. *Demands* that Israel comply with the Protocol on Economic Relations between the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization signed in Paris on 29 April 1994;⁶

4. *Calls upon* Israel to restore and replace civilian properties, vital infrastructure, agricultural lands and governmental institutions that have been damaged or destroyed as a result of its military operations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory;

5. *Reiterates* the call for the full implementation of the Agreement on Movement and Access of 15 November 2005, particularly the urgent and uninterrupted reopening of Rafah and Karni crossings, which is crucial to ensuring the passage of foodstuffs and essential supplies, including fuel, as well as the unhindered access of the United Nations agencies to and within the Occupied Palestinian Territory;

6. *Calls upon* all parties to respect the rules of international humanitarian law and to refrain from violence against the civilian population in accordance with the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;¹

7. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the Palestinian people and the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan to all their natural and economic resources, and calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, not to exploit, endanger or cause loss or depletion of these resources;

8. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cease its destruction of homes and properties, economic institutions and agricultural lands and orchards in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem; as well as in the occupied Syrian Golan;

9. *Also calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cease the dumping of all kinds of waste materials in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, which gravely threaten their natural resources, namely, the water and land resources, and pose an environmental hazard and health threat to the civilian populations, and calls for the further implementation of critical environmental projects, including the sewage treatment plant in the Gaza Strip;

10. *Reaffirms* that Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan, are illegal and constitute a major obstacle to economic and social development, and calls for the full implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions and compliance by Israel, the occupying Power, with international law, including the Fourth Geneva Convention;

11. *Also reaffirms* that Israel's ongoing construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, is contrary to international law and is isolating East Jerusalem, fragmenting the West Bank and seriously debilitating the economic and social development of the Palestinian people, and calls in this regard for full compliance with the legal obligations

⁶ See A/49/180-S/1994/727, annex, entitled "Agreement on the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area", annex IV.

mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice⁴ and in General Assembly resolution ES-10/15;

12. *Calls upon* Israel to comply with the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention, and to facilitate the visits of Syrian citizens of the occupied Syrian Golan whose family members reside in their homeland, the Syrian Arab Republic, via the Qunaitra entrance;

13. *Emphasizes* the importance of the work of United Nations organizations and agencies and of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority;

14. *Expresses its hope* that the resumed peace process will speedily advance to pave the way for the establishment of the independent Palestinian State and the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions, and stressing in this regard the importance of the Madrid Conference, the Arab Peace Initiative and the principle of land for peace;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to continue to include in the report of the United Nations Special Coordinator an update on the living conditions of the Palestinian people, in collaboration with relevant United Nations agencies;

16. *Decides* to include the item entitled "Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan" in the agenda of its substantive session of 2009.



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Agenda item 13 (h)

**Economic and environmental questions: international cooperation
in tax matters**

**Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council,
Jean-Marc Hoscheit (Luxembourg), on the basis of informal consultations**

Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2004/69 of 11 November 2004, in which the Council decided that the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters would be renamed the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters,

Recognizing the call made in the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development for the strengthening of international tax cooperation through enhanced dialogue among national tax authorities and greater coordination of the work of the concerned multilateral bodies and relevant regional organizations, giving special attention to the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition,¹

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of and follow-up to commitments and agreements made at the International Conference on Financing for Development² and the recommendations contained therein,

Recognizing the need for an inclusive, participatory and broad-based dialogue on international cooperation in tax matters,

Noting the activities developing within the concerned multilateral bodies and relevant subregional and regional organizations,

¹ *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution I, annex, para. 64.

² A/58/216.



1. *Takes note* of the report of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters on its third session³ and the significant progress of the Committee's work;

2. *Takes note also* of the report of the Secretary-General on financing of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters,⁴ taking into account the issues raised by the Committee at its second and third sessions;

3. *Recognizes* that the Committee agreed to create, as necessary, ad hoc subcommittees composed of experts and observers who would work according to the Committee's rules of procedure to prepare and determine the supporting documentation for the agenda items, including requests for papers by independent experts, for consideration at its regular session;

4. *Notes* that five subcommittees on substantive matters, namely, the improper use of treaties, the definition of permanent establishment, the exchange of information, including a possible code of conduct on cooperation in combating international tax evasion, dispute resolution and the treatment of Islamic financial instruments, and two working groups, on the revision of the United Nations Manual for the Negotiation of Bilateral Tax Treaties and on general issues in the revision of commentaries, have been created and are currently working intersessionally;

5. *Notes* the importance of adequate representation from developing countries in the meetings of the subcommittees and working groups, and in this regard invites the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to seek appropriate resources;

6. *Also notes* the establishment of the trust fund by the Secretary-General to supplement regular budget resources, and urges all Member States and relevant organizations to contribute generously to the fund;

7. *Invites* the Committee to work with the Secretariat on organizing training workshops, in collaboration with concerned multilateral bodies, regional, subregional and relevant international organizations, for developing countries and countries with economies in transition as part of the work required to carry out its mandate, which includes making recommendations on capacity-building and providing technical assistance, providing that funding is available from the trust fund;

8. *Decides* that the fourth session of the Committee shall be convened in Geneva from 20 to 24 October 2008;

9. *Approves* the provisional agenda for the fourth session of the Committee as contained in its report on its third session.⁵

³ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 45 (E/2007/45).

⁴ E/2008/4.

⁵ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 45 (E/2007/45), para 78.



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Agenda item 5

Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

Brazil and Republic of Korea: draft resolution

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, and recalling other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and relevant resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Council,

Welcoming the decision to consider the theme "Building capabilities and capacities at all levels for timely humanitarian assistance, including disaster risk reduction" at the humanitarian affairs segment of its substantive session of 2008,

Welcoming also the decision to hold panels on "Disaster risk reduction and preparedness: addressing the humanitarian consequences of natural disasters, including the impact of climate change" and "Humanitarian challenges related to global food aid, including enhancing international efforts and cooperation in this field" and to hold an informal event on "Coordination in the transition phase between emergency relief and sustainable recovery",

Expressing grave concern about the increase in the number of people affected by humanitarian emergencies, including those associated with natural hazards and complex emergencies, the increased impact of natural disasters and the displacement resulting from humanitarian emergencies,

Reaffirming the need for all actors engaged with the provision of humanitarian assistance in situations of complex emergencies and natural disasters to promote and fully respect the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence,

Reiterating the need to mainstream a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance in a comprehensive and consistent manner, and taking note of the updated



policy of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee on gender equality in humanitarian action,

Expressing its deep concern at the increasing challenges to Member States and the United Nations humanitarian response capacity posed by the consequences of natural disasters, including the impact of climate change and the humanitarian implications of the current global food crisis,

Condemning the increasing number of attacks and other acts of violence against humanitarian personnel, and expressing its deep concern about the implications for the provision of humanitarian assistance to populations in need,

Recognizing the clear relationship between emergency, rehabilitation and development, and reaffirming that, in order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and development, emergency assistance must be provided in ways that will be supportive of recovery and long-term development, and that emergency measures should be seen as a step towards such long-term development,

Welcoming the holding of the High-level Conference on World Food Security by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in Rome from 3 to 5 June 2008, and noting the importance of implementing its outcome, including those elements related to humanitarian assistance,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;¹

2. *Encourages* Member States to create and strengthen an enabling environment for the capacity-building of their national and local authorities, national societies of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in providing timely humanitarian assistance, and also encourages the international community, the relevant entities of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions and organizations to support national authorities in their capacity-building programmes, including through technical cooperation and long-term partnerships based on recognition of their important role in providing humanitarian assistance;

3. *Stresses* that the United Nations system should make efforts to enhance existing humanitarian capacities, knowledge and institutions, including, as appropriate, through the transfer of technology and expertise to developing countries, and encourages the international community to support efforts of Member States aimed at strengthening their capacity to prepare for and respond to disasters;

4. *Urges* Member States to develop, update and strengthen disaster preparedness and risk reduction measures at all levels, in accordance with priority five of the Hyogo Framework for Action, taking into account their own circumstances and capacities and in coordination with relevant actors, as appropriate, and encourages the international community and relevant United Nations entities to continue to support national efforts in this regard;

5. *Encourages* Member States and, where applicable, regional organizations to strengthen operational and legal frameworks for international disaster relief, taking into account, as appropriate, the Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and

¹ A/63/81-E/2008/71.

Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance, adopted at the thirtieth International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in November 2007;

6. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and, as appropriate, other relevant humanitarian actors to continue to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance at the field level, including with national authorities of the affected State, as appropriate, and to further enhance transparency, performance and accountability;

7. *Recognizes* the benefits of engagement of and coordination with relevant humanitarian actors to the effectiveness of humanitarian response, and encourages the United Nations to continue to pursue efforts to strengthen partnerships at the global level with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, relevant humanitarian non-governmental organizations and other participants of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

8. *Urges* Member States to continue to take the necessary steps to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel operating within their borders, recognizes the need for appropriate collaboration between humanitarian actors and relevant authorities of the affected State in matters related to their safety and security, requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to contribute to enhancing the safety and security of personnel involved in United Nations humanitarian operations, and urges Member States to ensure that perpetrators of crimes committed on their territory against humanitarian personnel do not operate with impunity and are brought to justice as provided for by national laws and obligations under international law;

9. *Welcomes* decisions taken during the United Nations Climate Change Conference, held in Bali, Indonesia, in December 2007, in particular the adoption of the Bali Action Plan, encourages Member States, as well as regional organizations and relevant international organizations, in accordance with their specific mandates, to support adaptation to the effects of climate change and to strengthen disaster risk reduction and early warning systems in order to minimize the humanitarian consequences of natural disasters, including the impact of climate change, and also encourages relevant entities to continue research on these humanitarian implications;

10. *Takes note* of the recent establishment by the Secretary-General of the High-level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis, and encourages its continued engagement with Member States;

11. *Takes note with interest* of the report of the independent study on the use of foreign military assets in disaster relief,² emphasizes the fundamentally civilian character of humanitarian assistance, and reaffirms the need in situations where military capacity and assets are used to support the implementation of humanitarian assistance, for their use to be with the consent of the affected State and in conformity with international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as humanitarian principles;

² Ibid., paras. 50-55.

12. *Recalls* the Guidelines on the Use of Military and Civil Defence Assets in Disaster Relief, also known as the Oslo Guidelines, stresses the value of their use, and invites Member States to raise awareness about them;

13. *Requests* Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and other relevant actors to ensure that all aspects of humanitarian response address the specific needs of women, girls, men and boys, including through the improved collection, analysis and reporting of sex and age-disaggregated data, taking into account, inter alia, the available information provided by States;

14. *Urges* Member States to continue to prevent, investigate and prosecute acts of gender-based violence, including sexual violence in humanitarian emergencies, and calls upon Member States and relevant organizations to strengthen support services to victims of such violence, and for a more effective response in this regard;

15. *Welcomes* the continued efforts to strengthen the humanitarian response capacity and the progress made in strengthening support to resident/humanitarian coordinators, including by improving their identification, selection and training, in order to provide a timely, predictable and appropriate response to humanitarian needs and to strengthen United Nations coordination activities at the field level, and requests the Secretary-General to continue efforts in this regard, in consultation with Member States;

16. *Encourages* Member States, the private sector and other relevant entities to make and consider increasing their contributions to humanitarian funding mechanisms, including consolidated and flash appeals, the Central Emergency Response Fund and other funds, based on and in proportion to assessed needs, as a means of ensuring flexible, predictable, timely, needs-based and, where possible, multi-year and additional resources, to meet global humanitarian challenges;

17. *Calls upon* United Nations humanitarian organizations, in consultation with Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen the evidence base for humanitarian assistance by further developing common mechanisms to improve the quality, transparency and reliability of humanitarian needs assessments, to assess their performance in assistance and to ensure the most effective use of humanitarian resources by these organizations;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to reflect the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the present resolution in his next report to the Economic and Social Council and to the General Assembly on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations.



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Agenda item 5

Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

Brazil and Republic of Korea: draft resolution

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, and recalling other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and relevant resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Council,

Welcoming the decision to consider the theme "Building capabilities and capacities at all levels for timely humanitarian assistance, including disaster risk reduction" at the humanitarian affairs segment of its substantive session of 2008,

Welcoming also the decision to hold panels on "Disaster risk reduction and preparedness: addressing the humanitarian consequences of natural disasters, including the impact of climate change" and "Humanitarian challenges related to global food aid, including enhancing international efforts and cooperation in this field" and to hold an informal event on "Coordination in the transition phase between emergency relief and sustainable recovery",

Expressing grave concern at the increase in the number of people affected by humanitarian emergencies, including those associated with natural hazards and complex emergencies, at the increased impact of natural disasters as well as at the displacement resulting from humanitarian emergencies,

Reaffirming the need for all actors engaged with the provision of humanitarian assistance in situations of complex emergencies and natural disasters to promote and fully respect the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence,

Reiterating the need to mainstream a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance in a comprehensive and consistent manner, and taking note of the updated

* Reissued for technical reasons.



policy of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee on gender equality in humanitarian action,

Expressing its deep concern at the increasing challenges posed to Member States and to the United Nations humanitarian response capacity by the consequences of natural disasters, including the impact of climate change and by the humanitarian implications of the current global food crisis,

Condemning the increasing number of attacks and other acts of violence against humanitarian personnel, and expressing its deep concern about the implications for the provision of humanitarian assistance to populations in need,

Recognizing the clear relationship between emergency, rehabilitation and development, and reaffirming that, in order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and development, emergency assistance must be provided in ways that will be supportive of recovery and long-term development, and that emergency measures should be seen as a step towards long-term development,

Welcoming the holding of the High-level Conference on World Food Security in Rome from 3 to 5 June 2008, and noting the importance of implementing its outcome, including those elements related to humanitarian assistance,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;¹

2. *Encourages* Member States to create and strengthen an enabling environment for the capacity-building of their national and local authorities, national societies of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, and national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in providing timely humanitarian assistance, and also encourages the international community, the relevant entities of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions and organizations to support national authorities in their capacity-building programmes, including through technical cooperation and long-term partnerships based on recognition of their important role in providing humanitarian assistance;

3. *Stresses* that the United Nations system should make efforts to enhance existing humanitarian capacities, knowledge and institutions, including, as appropriate, through the transfer of technology and expertise to developing countries, and encourages the international community to support efforts of Member States aimed at strengthening their capacity to prepare for and respond to disasters;

4. *Urges* Member States to develop, update and strengthen disaster preparedness and risk reduction measures at all levels, in accordance with priority five of the Hyogo Framework for Action, taking into account their own circumstances and capacities and in coordination with relevant actors, as appropriate, and encourages the international community and relevant United Nations entities to continue to support national efforts in this regard;

5. *Encourages* Member States and, where applicable, regional organizations to strengthen operational and legal frameworks for international disaster relief, taking into account, as appropriate, the Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance, adopted

¹ A/63/81-E/2008/71.

at the thirtieth International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in November 2007;

6. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and, as appropriate, other relevant humanitarian actors to continue to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance at the field level, including with national authorities of the affected State, as appropriate, and to further enhance transparency, performance and accountability;

7. *Recognizes* the benefits of engagement of and coordination with relevant humanitarian actors to the effectiveness of humanitarian response, and encourages the United Nations to continue to pursue efforts to strengthen partnerships at the global level with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, relevant humanitarian non-governmental organizations and other participants of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

8. *Urges* Member States to continue to take the necessary steps to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel operating within their borders, recognizes the need for appropriate collaboration between humanitarian actors and relevant authorities of the affected State in matters related to their safety and security, requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to contribute to enhancing the safety and security of personnel involved in United Nations humanitarian operations, and urges Member States to ensure that perpetrators of crimes committed on their territory against humanitarian personnel do not operate with impunity and are brought to justice as provided for by national laws and obligations under international law;

9. *Welcomes* decisions taken during the United Nations Climate Change Conference in 2007, in particular the Bali Action Plan, encourages Member States, as well as regional organizations and relevant international organizations, in accordance with their specific mandates, to support adaptation to the effects of climate change and to strengthen disaster risk reduction and early warning systems in order to minimize the humanitarian consequences of natural disasters, including the impact of climate change, and also encourages relevant entities to continue research on these humanitarian implications;

10. *Takes note* of the recent establishment by the Secretary-General of the High-level Task Force on the Global Food Crisis, and encourages its continued engagement with Member States;

11. *Takes note with interest* of the independent study on the use of foreign military assets in disaster relief mentioned in the report of the Secretary-General,² emphasizes the fundamentally civilian character of humanitarian assistance, and reaffirms the need in situations where military capacity and assets are used to support the implementation of humanitarian assistance, for their use to be with the consent of the affected State and in conformity with international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as humanitarian principles;

12. *Recalls* the Guidelines on the Use of Military and Civil Defence Assets in Disaster Relief, also known as the Oslo Guidelines, stresses the value of their use, and invites Member States to raise awareness about them;

² Ibid., paras. 50-55.

13. *Requests* Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and other relevant actors to ensure that all aspects of humanitarian response address the specific needs of women, girls, men and boys, including through the improved collection, analysis and reporting of sex and age-disaggregated data, taking into account, inter alia, the available information provided by States;

14. *Urges* Member States to continue to prevent, investigate and prosecute acts of gender-based violence, including sexual violence in humanitarian emergencies, calls upon Member States and relevant organizations to strengthen support services to victims of such violence, and also calls for a more effective response in this regard;

15. *Welcomes* the continued efforts to strengthen the humanitarian response capacity and the progress made in strengthening support to resident/humanitarian coordinators, including by improving their identification, selection and training, in order to provide a timely, predictable and appropriate response to humanitarian needs and to strengthen United Nations coordination activities at the field level, and requests the Secretary-General to continue efforts in this regard, in consultation with Member States;

16. *Encourages* Member States, the private sector and other relevant entities to make and consider increasing their contributions to humanitarian funding mechanisms, including consolidated and flash appeals, the Central Emergency Response Fund and other funds, based on and in proportion to assessed needs, as a means of ensuring flexible, predictable, timely, needs-based and, where possible, multi-year and additional resources, to meet global humanitarian challenges;

17. *Calls upon* United Nations humanitarian organizations, in consultation with Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen the evidence base for humanitarian assistance by further developing common mechanisms to improve the quality, transparency and reliability of humanitarian needs assessments, to assess their performance in assistance and to ensure the most effective use of humanitarian resources by these organizations;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to reflect the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the present resolution in his next report to the Economic and Social Council and to the General Assembly on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations.



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Agenda item 4

**The role of the United Nations system in implementing
the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of
the substantive session of 2007 of the Council**

**Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council,
Antonio Pedro Monteiro Lima (Cape Verde), on the basis of
informal consultations**

**Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated
and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and
follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits,
in light of relevant General Assembly resolutions, including
resolution 61/16**

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its agreed conclusions 1995/1 of 28 July 1995¹ and 2002/1 of 26 July 2002² and its relevant resolutions on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, including its resolutions 2007/8 of 25 July 2007, 2007/29 of 27 July 2007 and 2006/44 of 28 July 2006, its decisions 2006/206 of 10 February 2006 and 2006/274 of 15 December 2006 and General Assembly resolutions 50/227 of 24 May 1996, 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 60/265 of 30 June 2006 and 61/16 of 20 November 2006,

Recalling also the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits and the review of their implementation in the economic, social and related fields,

Reaffirming the need to fully implement the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and in this regard expressing its determination to enhance the momentum generated by the 2005 World

¹ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/50/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 22.

² Ibid., Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/57/3/Rev.1), chap. V, para. 9.



Summit, in particular for strengthening the role of the Economic and Social Council through its new functions,

Recalling that the Council should increase its role in overseeing system-wide coordination and the balanced integration of economic, social and environmental aspects of United Nations policies and programmes aimed at promoting sustainable development, and reaffirming that the Commission on Sustainable Development should continue to be the high-level commission on sustainable development within the United Nations system and to serve as a forum for consideration of issues related to integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, as called for in General Assembly resolution 61/16,

Recognizing the important role of a strengthened Council, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/16, in promoting integrated and coordinated follow-up to conferences and summits,

Noting the report of the Secretary-General on the role of the Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to the major United Nations conferences and summits, in light of General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 61/16,³

1. *Reaffirms* the need to continue to strengthen the Economic and Social Council as the central mechanism for system-wide coordination and thus promote the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences in the economic, social and related fields, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and relevant General Assembly resolutions, in particular resolutions 50/227, 57/270 B and 61/16;

2. *Welcomes* the holding of the first Development Cooperation Forum and the second annual ministerial review as steps forward in strengthening of the Council;

3. *Recognizes* the need to further enhance coordination and cooperation between the Council and its functional commissions, regional commissions and other subsidiary bodies so as to allow the Council to carry out its crucial role as the central mechanism for system-wide coordination more effectively;

4. *Encourages* the functional commissions to continue to explore ways to engage United Nations agencies, funds and programmes more systematically in their work within their respective mandates;

5. *Invites* the organizations of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, to contribute, within their respective mandates, to the work of the Council, as appropriate, including to the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits, in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 61/16;

6. *Welcomes* the strengthened cooperation between the Council and the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and emphasizes that the interaction should be further improved;

³ A/63/83-E/2008/77.

7. *Stresses* that the preparation of the annual ministerial review, should be fully supported by the United Nations system, especially the funds, programmes and specialized agencies, in accordance with the respective mandates, as appropriate, in coordination with national Governments;

8. *Requests* the functional commissions, the regional commissions and other relevant subsidiary bodies of the Council, in accordance with their mandates, as appropriate, to contribute to the annual ministerial review and to the Development Cooperation Forum, in the context of their respective annual workplans, taking into account their specificities;

9. *Stresses* the important contribution of civil society in the implementation of conference outcomes, and emphasizes that the contribution of non-governmental organizations and the private sector to the work of the Council should be further encouraged and improved, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the Council;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on measures taken to implement the ministerial declaration for consideration by the Council at the coordination segment of its substantive session of the following year;

11. *Decides* to review the periodicity of the report of the Secretary-General on the role of the Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits, in light of relevant General Assembly resolutions at its substantive session of 2009, with a view towards further enhancing the effectiveness of the report;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the above-mentioned subject for consideration by the Council at its substantive session of 2009.



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Agenda item 13 (g)
Economic and environmental questions:
public administration and development

Draft decision submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Jean-Marc Hoscheit (Luxembourg), on the basis of informal consultations

Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its seventh session and provisional agenda for its eighth session

The Economic and Social Council decides:

(a) To approve the convening of the eighth session of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration from 30 March to 3 April 2009 on the main theme, "The human factor in capacity-building and development";

(b) To approve also the following agenda for the eighth session of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration:

1. The human factor in capacity-building and development.
2. Compendium of basic United Nations terminology in governance and public administration.
3. Review of the United Nations Programme on Public Administration, Finance and Development.
4. Public administration perspective on the theme of the 2009 annual ministerial review: implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to global public health.





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Agenda item 14
Social and human rights questions

Belarus: draft resolution

Strengthening coordination of the United Nations and other efforts in fighting trafficking in persons

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the role of the Economic and Social Council in providing overall coordination and guidance for the United Nations operational development programmes and funds on a system-wide basis,

Recalling also the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime¹ and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing that Convention,²

Reaffirming all previous resolutions of United Nations bodies on the problem of trafficking in persons,

Recalling resolution 17/1 of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on efforts in the fight against trafficking in persons,³ which underlined the need to continue to work towards a comprehensive and coordinated approach to the problem of human trafficking through the appropriate national, regional and international mechanisms,

Recognizing that the provision of effective support to the work of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols should be an important part of the coordination efforts of the United Nations system on the issue of trafficking in persons,

Noting the Vienna Forum to Fight Human Trafficking, held from 13 to 15 February 2008, the thematic debate of the General Assembly on human

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

² *Ibid.*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

³ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2008, Supplement No. 10 (E/2008/30)*, chap. I, sect. D.



trafficking, held in New York on 3 June 2008, and the observations made at the thematic debate and the Vienna Forum,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 61/180 of 20 December 2006, entitled "Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons", and Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/27 of 27 July 2006, entitled "Strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating trafficking in persons and protecting victims of such trafficking",

Recognizing the importance of bilateral, subregional and regional and international cooperation mechanisms and initiatives, including information exchanges on best practices, of Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on addressing the problem of trafficking in persons, especially women and children,

Highlighting that strengthened international cooperation and coordination are needed to combat the activities of transnational criminal organizations and others that profit from the trafficking in persons, to protect and assist all victims, with full respect for their human rights, and to ensure the exercise of due diligence with respect to prevention and investigation and punishment of perpetrators,

Underlining the need to continue to work towards a comprehensive and coordinated approach to the problem of trafficking in persons through the appropriate national, regional and international mechanisms,

Recognizing that addressing the problem of trafficking in persons requires a comprehensive approach, including addressing social and economic factors that make persons more vulnerable to trafficking, such as poverty, lack of opportunity, discrimination and marginalization, as well as strengthening the rule of law, combating corruption and discouraging and reducing demand,

1. *Urges* all States, individually and through international cooperation, as well as within the United Nations system, to increase, in a coherent, comprehensive and coordinated manner, efforts to counter trafficking in persons;

2. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime¹ and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing that Convention,² as well as to the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others;⁴

3. *Invites* all States Members of the United Nations to make full use of existing instruments against human trafficking;

4. *Invites* Governments, regional and international organizations, and civil society to address, inter alia, the economic and social factors that breed and encourage trafficking in persons as well as to provide for the physical, psychological and social recovery of victims of trafficking in persons through:

(a) Appropriate housing;

(b) Counselling and information, in particular as regards their legal rights, in a language that the victims of trafficking in persons can understand;

⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 96, No. 1342.

- (c) Medical, psychological and material assistance;
- (d) Employment, educational and training opportunities;

5. *Calls upon* Governments and relevant actors from the international community to take into account the age, gender and special needs of victims of trafficking in persons;

6. *Calls upon* all States to fully implement the provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/27, entitled "Strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating trafficking in persons and protecting victims of such trafficking";

7. *Calls for* full implementation of relevant instruments for the prevention and combating of trafficking in persons, and protection of victims of trafficking;

8. *Reiterates the invitation* to Member States to consider the advisability of establishing a United Nations strategy or plan of action on preventing trafficking in persons, prosecuting traffickers and protecting and assisting victims of trafficking;

9. *Welcomes* the work carried out under the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking and encourages the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to cooperate with relevant international organizations outside of the United Nations system, utilizing extrabudgetary resources, and to invite such organizations to participate, when appropriate, in the meetings of the Inter-Agency Cooperation Group against Trafficking in Persons and to keep Member States informed of the schedule of and the progress made by the Cooperation Group;

10. *Invites* Member States to provide voluntary contributions to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in order to facilitate optimum implementation of coordination functions;

11. *Highlights* the role of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols in ensuring the full and effective implementation of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing that Convention;

12. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandates, in conformity with its high priorities, and to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.



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Agenda item 14 (a)

Social and human rights questions: advancement of women

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Jean-Marc Hoscheit (Luxembourg), on the basis of informal consultations

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming its agreed conclusions 1997/2 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system,¹ and recalling its resolutions 2001/41 of 26 July 2001, 2002/23 of 24 July 2002, 2003/49 of 24 July 2003, 2004/4 of 7 July 2004, 2005/31 of 26 July 2005, 2006/36 of 27 July 2006 and 2007/33 of 27 July 2007,

Reaffirming also the commitment made at the 2005 World Summit to actively promote the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and social spheres and to further undertake to strengthen the capabilities of the United Nations system in the area of gender,

Acknowledging that enhancing women's opportunities, potential and activities requires a dual focus, namely, programmes aimed at meeting the basic and specific needs of women for capacity-building, organizational development and empowerment, together with gender mainstreaming in all programme formulation and implementation activities,

Recognizing that gender equality and the empowerment of women make an essential contribution to the work of the United Nations,

Noting the ongoing discussions in the General Assembly on the report of the Secretary-General² on the recommendations contained in the report of the High-

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/52/3/Rev.1), chap. IV, para. 4.*

² A/61/836.



level Panel on United Nations System-wide Coherence in the areas of development, humanitarian assistance and the environment,³

Reaffirming that gender mainstreaming is a globally accepted strategy for achieving gender equality and constitutes a critical strategy in the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action⁴ and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,⁵

Recognizing that training is critical for increasing awareness, knowledge, commitment and the capacity of staff to mainstream a gender perspective into United Nations policies and programmes and that the provision of effective gender training requires adequate financial and human resources,

Underlining the catalytic role played by the Commission on the Status of Women, as well as the important role played by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, in promoting and monitoring gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system,

Expressing serious concern that the urgent goal of 50/50 gender balance in the United Nations system, especially at senior and policymaking levels, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, remains unmet and that the representation of women in the United Nations system has remained almost static, with negligible improvement in some parts of the system, and in some cases has even decreased, as reflected in the report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system,⁶

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General⁷ and the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Recognizes* that the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality remains an important forum for the exchange and cross-fertilization of ideas on gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system, and takes note of the ongoing discussions on the implementation of the policy and strategy for gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system;

3. *Encourages* all United Nations entities to continue investing in capacity development, including through mandatory training for all staff and personnel and training for senior managers, as a critical means of increasing the awareness, knowledge, commitment and competencies of staff with regard to mainstreaming a gender perspective in all United Nations policies and programmes;

4. *Recognizes* that a large gap remains between policy and practice and that building United Nations staff capacities alone is not sufficient for the Organization to meet its commitments and obligations with respect to gender mainstreaming, and requests the United Nations system, including United Nations agencies, funds and programmes within their organizational mandates, to:

³ See A/61/583.

⁴ *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

⁵ General Assembly resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

⁶ A/61/318.

⁷ E/2008/53.

(a) Strengthen institutional accountability mechanisms, including through a more effective monitoring and evaluation framework for gender mainstreaming based on common United Nations evaluation standards;

(b) Strengthen accountability systems for both management and staff, through, inter alia, the inclusion of objectives and results related to gender mainstreaming in personnel workplans and appraisals;

(c) Continue efforts to achieve gender balance in appointments within the United Nations system at the Headquarters and country levels in positions that affect operational activities, including resident coordinator appointments and other high-level posts, with due regard to representation of women from developing countries and keeping in mind the principle of equitable geographic representation, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations;

(d) Ensure that programmes, plans and budgets visibly mainstream gender perspectives and allocate adequate financial and human resources for gender mainstreaming commensurate with the organizational gender equality goals, including for mandatory training on gender mainstreaming, especially gender analysis, for all staff and for the implementation of strategies, policies and action plans;

(e) Share and disseminate good practices, tools and methodologies electronically and through regular meetings on gender mainstreaming, including through the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality and its task forces, as well as the United Nations country teams;

(f) Address gaps by strengthening coordination and synergy between policy and practice in mainstreaming a gender perspective in their respective fields of work;

(g) Enhance collaboration and coordination in the work of gender specialists and gender focal points working, inter alia, in the areas of peace and security, humanitarian affairs and economic and social development;

(h) Provide specific ongoing capacity-building, inter alia, through training for gender specialists and gender focal points, including in the field;

(i) Promote a United Nations system-wide common understanding of a results-based management framework with benchmarks and indicators for measuring progress in application of the gender mainstreaming strategy to achieve gender equality;

(j) Include clear gender equality results and gender-sensitive indicators in their strategic frameworks;

(k) Assess the gaps in gender mainstreaming and unify methodologies for evaluation after the implementation of gender mainstreaming policies and programmes within the United Nations system;

(l) Strengthen collaboration between United Nations country teams on gender equality programmes, including through joint activities and the strengthening of the capacity of gender theme groups to support such activities;

(m) Mainstream a gender perspective and pursue gender equality in their country programmes, planning instruments and sector-wide programmes and

articulate specific country-level goals and targets in this field in accordance with national development strategies;

(n) Collaborate with the resident coordinator system to provide gender specialist resources in support of gender mainstreaming in country-level activities in all sectors in which they operate, working closely with relevant national counterparts;

(o) Promote inter-agency cooperation through the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality and the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, through its High-level Committee on Programmes, the United Nations Development Group and its High-level Committee on Management, in order to ensure consistency and synergy in the implementation of the United Nations system-wide policy and strategy on gender mainstreaming;

(p) Promote the collection, analysis and use of data disaggregated by sex during programme development and evaluation of gender mainstreaming to assess progress towards achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women;

5. *Requests* all relevant United Nations entities to maintain their efforts to raise awareness of gender issues within their organizations and across the United Nations system;

6. *Stresses* the important role that senior management plays in creating an environment that actively supports gender mainstreaming, and calls upon it to do so;

7. *Requests* the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality to continue to provide practical support to its members in gender mainstreaming, explore possibilities for developing an accessible and consolidated database of trained facilitators at the country and regional levels, in consultation with Member States, and report regularly to the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination in order to facilitate the incorporation of gender mainstreaming perspectives into their work;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2009 a detailed report on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including updated information on the implementation of paragraph 4 of Council resolution 2006/36.



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Agenda item 13 (g)

**Economic and environmental questions:
public administration and development**

**Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council,
Jean-Marc Hoscheit (Luxembourg), on the basis of informal consultations**

Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its seventh session

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions on public administration and development 2002/40 of 19 December 2002, 2003/60 of 25 July 2003, 2005/3 of 31 March 2005, 2005/55 of 21 October 2005, 2006/47 of 28 July 2006 and 2007/38 of 4 October 2007,

Recalling also the resolutions of the General Assembly on public administration and development 50/225 of 19 April 1996, 56/213 of 21 December 2001, 57/277 of 20 December 2002, 58/231 of 23 December 2003, 59/55 of 2 December 2004 and 60/34 of 30 November 2005,

Recalling further paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005,

Taking note with appreciation of the pioneering work of the United Nations Programme on Public Administration, Finance and Development in supporting Member States with administrative reforms, public institution-building, civil service training and post-conflict reconstruction of public administrations during the past 60 years since its inception in 1948,¹

Recognizing that although the conditions and context of development and governance have changed, public administration priorities, including capacity-building for development and ownership of national development still remain critical cross-cutting issues for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

¹ See General Assembly resolution 246 (III).



1. *Takes note* of the conclusions on the topic of capacity-building for development in the report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its seventh session;²

2. *Encourages* Member States to continue to strengthen their capacities to better utilize the various aid modalities³ and to disseminate the understanding and implementation of capacity-building as a judicious combination of institution-building and human resource development,⁴ whereby people, organizations, States and society as a whole develop and maintain their ability to manage their public affairs successfully through, among other means, fostering public participation in governance and development processes,⁵ harnessing the potential of information and communications technology to promote people-centred development, effectively combining decentralization and centralization policies, and forging regional and national partnerships with institutions of public administration to provide needed training;⁶

3. *Emphasizes* that capacity-building is essential and needed in administrative restructuring, civil service reform, human resources development and public administration training, improving performance in the public sector, financial management, public-private interaction, social development, developing infrastructure and protecting the environment, governmental legal and regulatory capacity, and the management and implementation of development programmes;⁷

4. *Invites* Member States to continue to monitor the progress made towards the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals and to prepare an inventory of good administrative policies implemented to support the Goals, including the necessary capacities, institutional development aspects and strategic visions concerning a modern civil service, and emphasizes that the United Nations system, particularly the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and other concerned United Nations bodies, should support such efforts and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned;

5. *Stresses* that capacity-building for public administration is of utmost importance for all transitioning economies, the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction, and disaster/crisis management and preparedness, that capacity-building processes in those areas share a number of important common features and experiences concerning the interaction of societal, systemic, organizational and individual levels of action, and that Member countries should share these experiences in a more systematic and comprehensive way;

6. *Emphasizes* that in capacity-building for post-conflict recovery and reconstruction, the continuity of administration and public services, the coherence of the public sector and a multi-stakeholder approach are important prerequisites, and that in capacity-building for post-disaster and crisis situations, the United Nations system, particularly the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and

² Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2008, supplement No. 24 (E/2008/44).

³ See General Assembly resolution 59/250, para. 30.

⁴ See E/1997/86.

⁵ See resolution 2005/3.

⁶ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 44 (E/2003/44).

⁷ See A/50/525.

other United Nations bodies should support efforts to distil and share lessons learned and best practices;

7. Requests the Secretariat to enhance its support for capacity-building,⁸ including in the public sector, ensuring that available resources are adequate and existing resource levels are maintained;

8. *Also requests* the Secretariat to continually focus on the United Nations Public Service Awards, the United Nations Online Network in Public Administration and Finance (UNPAN), the Network of Innovators, the *World Public Sector Reports* and the Global Forum on Reinventing Government, and further requests the Secretariat to continue its useful role in facilitating the implementation of the action lines contained in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society;⁹

9. *Notes* the latest phase of the work done by the Committee of Experts on basic United Nations terminology in governance and public administration through a review of proposed definitions;

10. *Notes* the input by the Committee of Experts on the theme of the 2008 annual ministerial review: implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development.

⁸ See General Assembly resolution 60/1, para. 22 (f).

⁹ See A/60/687.



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Agenda item 7 (f)

**Coordination, programme and other questions:
ad hoc advisory groups on African countries
emerging from conflict**

**Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Jean-Marc
Hoscheit (Luxembourg), on the basis of informal consultations**

Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau

The Economic and Social Council,

*Recalling its resolutions 2005/32 of 26 July 2005, 2006/11 of 26 July 2006 and
2007/15 of 26 July 2007 and its decision 2002/304 of 25 October 2002,*

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau;¹
2. *Welcomes* the decision of the Peacebuilding Commission to place Guinea-Bissau on its agenda and the creation of a country-specific configuration;
3. *Takes note* of the political and economic evolution of the situation and welcomes the support of the international community to this process;
4. *Looks forward* to continued support for Guinea-Bissau from donors, the United Nations system and the Bretton Woods institutions and, in this regard, welcomes the decision by the Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund to renew access by Guinea-Bissau to emergency post-conflict assistance;
5. *Reaffirms* the importance of promoting sustainable development and improved governance as fundamental to consolidating peace, in addition to ongoing efforts for socio-economic recovery and reforms in the public administration, security and defence sectors;
6. *Invites* the partners of Guinea-Bissau to provide predictable and adequate resources to ensure the effective implementation of the Peacebuilding Commission's strategic framework;

¹ E/2008/55.



7. *Stresses* the importance of addressing the structural causes of conflict and, in this connection, urges continued support and funding for the implementation of the country's Poverty Reduction Strategy, its security sector reform plan and its anti-narcotics operational plan;

8. *Expresses its appreciation* for the positive and constructive role of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau in supporting the country in its efforts to rebuild its economy and society, and invites its members to continue their support through the Peacebuilding Commission;

9. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the support provided to the work of the Group;

10. *Decides* to terminate the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau;

11. *Invites* the Peacebuilding Commission to consider the work of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau of the Economic and Social Council and to draw upon the lessons learned from that experience;

12. *Also invites* the Peacebuilding Commission to continue to inform it about the economic and social aspects of peacebuilding in Guinea-Bissau;

13. *Decides* to consider this matter at its substantive session of 2009 under the agenda item entitled "African countries emerging from conflict".



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Agenda item 1

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

**Draft decision submitted by the President of the Council, Léo Mérorès (Haiti),
on the basis of informal consultations**

Theme for the 2009 thematic discussion of the Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council decides to adopt the following theme for its 2009 thematic discussion: "current global and national trends and their impact on social development, including public health".





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Agenda item 1

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Draft decision submitted by the President of the Council on the basis of informal consultations

Multi-year programme of work for the 2010 and 2011 annual ministerial reviews of the Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council decides to adopt the following themes for its annual ministerial-level substantive reviews for 2010 and 2011:

- (a) 2010: "Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and empowerment of women";
 - (b) 2011: "Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to education".
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Agenda item 15

United Nations research and training institutes

**Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council,
Jean-Marc Hoscheit (Luxembourg), on the basis of informal consultations**

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 51/188 of 16 December 1996, 52/206 of 18 December 1997, 53/195 of 15 December 1998, 54/229 of 22 December 1999, 55/208 of 20 December 2000, 56/208 of 21 December 2001, 57/268 of 20 December 2002, 58/223 of 23 December 2003, 59/252 of 22 December 2004, 60/213 of 22 December 2005 and 62/210 of 19 December 2007 and its decision 61/542 of 20 December 2006,

Welcoming the decision to streamline the reporting arrangements of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/210,

Recalling in particular paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 62/210,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,¹

Noting that the Institute is self-funded to date, not receiving any kind of subsidies from the United Nations regular budget, and delivers, free of charge, training courses to diplomats and delegates accredited to United Nations Headquarters in New York and to the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi,

Stressing that core diplomatic training offered by the Institute is a service accessible to diplomats of the entire membership of the United Nations and strengthens capacities of diplomats to perform their multilateral duties,

Noting the solid overall financial situation of the Institute, with a projected increase of funding of at least 26 per cent between the previous and current bienniums, and expressing its appreciation to the Governments and private

¹ E/2008/72.



institutions that have made or pledged financial and other contributions to the Institute,

Noting also that, despite the growing need for training and capacity development, voluntary contributions remain at a low level, putting at risk the training courses that the Institute delivers to diplomats and delegates accredited to United Nations Headquarters in New York and to the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi,

Reiterating that training and capacity-development activities should be accorded a more visible and larger role in support of the management of international affairs, and in the execution of the economic and social development programmes of the United Nations system,

1. *Acknowledges* the progress made by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, in light of the strategic reforms introduced by its Executive Director and endorsed by its Board of Trustees, for the Institute to be a centre of excellence;

2. *Also acknowledges* the work of the Board of Trustees and welcomes the contributions of its newly reconstituted membership with respect to guiding the Institute through its reforms;

3. *Considers* that the core diplomatic training offered by the Institute is unique in its beneficiary base and its reliance on United Nations expertise;

4. *Notes with concern* that a lack of voluntary contributions could lead to a cessation of this service which is particularly important for the training of delegates from developing and least developed countries;

5. *Appeals*, in this regard, to the Institute to continue its fund-raising strategy and to all Governments, in particular those of developed countries, and to private institutions that have not yet contributed financially or otherwise to the Institute, to give it their generous financial and other support, and urges the States that have interrupted their voluntary contributions to consider resuming them in view of the Institute's strategic reforms;

6. *Requests*, in this regard, the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the issue of financing the core diplomatic training activities of the Institute.